

Application No.: 10/723,947

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Docket No.: 514112000320

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In the application as filed, Applicants erroneously listed the incorrect Grant (or Contract) No. The specification has been amended to reflect the correct Grant No.

Claims 1-10, 17, 20, 22, 24-27 have been amended. Claims 28-33 are withdrawn. Claims 34-35 are newly added. After entry of this amendment, claims 1-35 will be pending.

The Examiner has required restriction between the following:

Group I: Claims 1-27, drawn to a recombinant ZCCT1 protein coding sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 75 or variants thereof, vector, cell, transgenic plant and methods comprising said recombinant ZCCT1 protein coding sequence.

Group II: Claims 28-30, drawn to a transgenic plant comprising a genetic construct that inhibits ZCCT1 repression of AP1, wherein said genetic construct comprises an RNAi molecule or an antisense molecule.

Group III: Claims 31-32, drawn to a transgenic plant comprising a genetic construct that encodes a dominant negative mutant.

Group IV: Claim 33, drawn to a molecular marker for Vrn2.

Applicants traverse this requirement because it would not be an undue burden for the Examiner to search on the subject matter covered by all of the claims. However, in order to expedite prosecution, Applicants hereby elect Group I, claims 1-27 and new claims 34-35, with traverse.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any

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required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no.514112000320. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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